

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel the following claims without prejudice or disclaimer:

Please cancel Claims ~~1, 4~~ and 5.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 2. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim [1] 18 in which at least
2 one of the first and second clamping members has a supporting surface, substantially opposite the
3 clamping surface, the supporting surface being arranged to support webbing.

1 6. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim [5] 18, wherein the shaft
2 is cylindrical.

1 7. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim [5 or claim 6] 2, wherein
2 the [other clamping member includes a] supporting surface[, opposite to the clamping surface,] is
3 provided on the other clamping member for supporting webbing wrapped therearound, the
4 supporting surface being configured to prevent undue tension on webbing supported thereby.

1 8. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 7, wherein the [first]
2 inner frame comprises a first pair of substantially parallel inner plates, and the [second] outer
3 frame comprises a second pair of substantially parallel outer plates, the assembly further
4 comprising a roller shaft, wherein the first pair of substantially parallel inner plates is mounted on
5 the roller shaft to pivot between the first and second positions, and wherein in the first position,
6 the inner plates of the first frame lie between the outer plates of the second frame, and wherein the
7 supporting surface extends within the boundary of the inner plates in the first position.

11. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 9[or claim 10], in which [the roller shaft extends through] the tensioning mechanism includes a pair of slots in respective ones of either the first pair of substantially parallel inner plates or the second pair of substantially parallel outer plates, the roller shaft extending through the pair of slots and [is] being rigidly mounted to the other of the first pair of substantially parallel inner plates or the second pair of substantially parallel outer plates, so that the first frame can be displaced relative to the second frame along the length of the slots.

13. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 11[or claim 12], in which the roller shaft forms one of the first and second clamping members and the other of the first and second clamping members is rigidly secured between the parallel plates of the frame carrying slots.

14. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in [any preceding claim] claim 18, in which the assembly has a first end and a second end, the first end carrying a hook mounted to the first or second frame for attachment to an object to be tied down, the hook secured to the first or second frame at a pair of securing points.

17. (Amended) A webbing tie down assembly as claimed in claim 15[or claim 16], in which the supporting surface adjacent the second end of the assembly has a minimum radius of curvature of 6.35mm.

Please add the following new claim:

1 18. A webbing tie down assembly, comprising:
2 an inner frame and an outer frame, the inner frame and the outer frame being arranged to
3 support webbing therein and including a clamping mechanism comprising: a first clamping
4 member supported by the inner frame and having a first clamping surface, and a second clamping
5 member supported by the outer frame and having a second clamping surface, the inner frame being
6 mounted with respect to the outer frame for movement between a first position in which the first
7 and second clamping surfaces are substantially together for clamping webbing therebetween, and a
8 second position in which the clamping surfaces are apart for allowing webbing to slide
9 therethrough; and further including a tensioning mechanism, for disengaging the first and second
10 clamping surfaces when the inner frame and outer frame are in the first position to permit the
11 webbing to slide therebetween to enable tensioning of the webbing,
12 characterized in that one of the first and second clamping members comprises a shaft, and
13 the clamping surface of the other clamping member has a complementary curvature, so that the
14 clamping surfaces of the first and second clamping members lie substantially parallel in the first
15 position so that a clamping force on the webbing is distributed over a relatively large surface area
16 of the webbing.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Attached hereto is one (1) sheet of Abstract.